

**United States Environmental Protection Agency
Criminal Investigation Division
Investigative Activity Report**

Case Number:

1000-M790

Case Title:

Otis Hotel - Spokane

Subject of Report:

2018-03-12 Phone Interview with (b) (6), Washington State Labor and Industries

Reporting Office:

Seattle, WA, Area Office

Activity Date:

March 12, 2018

Reporting Official and Date:

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Agent

14-MAR-2018, Signed by: (b) (6), (b) (7)

Approving Official and Date:

(b) (6), (b) (7)

Special Agent in Charge

21-MAR-2018, Approved by: (b) (6), (b) (7)

Assistant Special Agent in Charge

SYNOPSIS

On March 12, 2018, SA (b) (6), received a phone call from (b) (6), an investigator with the Washington State Department of Labor and Industries in Spokane, Washington, regarding his knowledge of asbestos abatement inside of the Otis Hotel.

DETAILS

On March 12, 2018, I received a phone call from (b) (6), an (b) (6), (b) with the Washington State Department of Labor and Industries in Spokane, Washington, regarding his knowledge of asbestos abatement inside of the Otis Hotel. After being notified of the identity of the interviewing agent and the nature of the interview, (b) in substance, provided the following information:

The Washington State Department of Labor and Industries (WA L&I) received a jobsite complaint from an unknown complainant about asbestos removal being done at the Otis Hotel in Spokane, Washington. The complainant stated that there was illegal asbestos removal occurring during the remodel which is being mixed with normal debris being removed and sent to a local landfill.

WA L&I requested access to the jobsite, but was denied by the general contractor. The general contractor would not allow any inspectors on the jobsite until March 8, 2018. Spokane Regional Clean Air Agency (SRCAA) and WA L&I attempted to enter the jobsite on March 8, 2018, but was denied entry. WA L&I requested and received a warrant to enter the jobsite.

SRCAA took multiple samples of the jobsite debris and reported that four of the seven were considered "hot." The last time workers with the Otis Hotel remodeling project could handle asbestos was in October of 2017, after the last asbestos report filing.

When the investigators for the agencies arrived on scene they found a large pile of debris along with a large "roll off" garbage container filled with debris. According to the agencies' review of the pile of debris and the roll off container, asbestos containing material (ACM) was present in the mixed debris. The possible ACM was not bagged but placed with the other debris. It became apparent to the agency investigators that Otis Hotel may have more ACM than first reported.

WA L&I placed an administrative restraint on the jobsite to prevent future ACM removal. WA L&I also

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ordered the (b) (6) of the Otis Hotel, (b) (6), (b) (7), to contract another asbestos survey for the remaining elements of the Otis Hotel.

According to (b) (6), (b) (6) employee, (b) (6), LNU (b) (6), attempted to work with local asbestos contractors on the original ACM survey, but found them to be too expensive. (b) (6), contracted with 4 Aces Restoration in Burien, Washington for approximately one-half the local contractors' prices.

(b) (6) advised he will keep EPA CID informed of further activities as they occur.

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